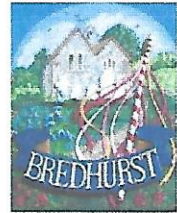


BREDHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting
Blacksmith's Barn
Wednesday 6th April 2022 at 6.30pm



Present: Cllr Vanessa Jones (Chair), Cllr Nichola Carr (Vice Chair), Cllrs Chantelle Goodwin-Sword, Cllr Clair Sharp and Cllr Steve Bowring
 Steve Hill – Clerk & RFO
 Public: 2

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Maidstone Borough Cllr Clive English, Leader of the Lib Dem Party and Sue Harwood, Against Lidsing Garden Development (ALGD) committee member.

573. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Dan Fifield and Borough Cllr Hinder – apologies accepted.

574. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

575. Minutes of 2nd March 2022 Parish Council Meeting

There was one minor amendment required in section 565a. The date of 8th March was amended to 8th February and initialled. The minutes were subsequently agreed and signed by the Chair.

576. Police Briefing

There were no crimes reported in Bredhurst during the preceding month. There has been no contact from new PCSO Honeysett since she took office in January. The Clerk was asked to contact her.

AP1: Clerk to contact PCSO.

577. Matters Arising (for information only)

Action Points from 02-03-22

Action Points	Actions	Clerk or Cllr	Completed or Agenda Item 02-03-22
AP1	Update on wetpour quotes for community playing field.	Cllr Fifield	578a
AP2	To provide alternative company wetpour quotes.	Clerk	578a
AP3	To arrange quote to board out loft area above kitchen and bathroom area.	Cllr Jones	579a
AP4	To advise prospective long-term hirer of cllrs decision	Cllr Jones	Completed
AP5	To contact manager of Bell to discuss damage to kerbing/grass by a delivery to The Bell	Cllr Carr	580a
AP6	Update on progress to paint fingerpost and village sign	Cllr Bowring	580b
AP7	Date to be arranged for the village spring clean	Cllr Carr	Completed
AP8	Update on repair and re-installation of the footpath map notice board	Cllr Bowring	580d
AP9	Update on larger bollard reflectors being installed.	Cllr Carr	580e
AP10	Discuss with local business progress of defibrillator	Cllr Carr	581a
AP11	Update on location signs for existing defibrillator	Clerk	581b
AP12	CIL return to MBC by 30 th June 2022	Clerk	Ongoing
AP13	To purchase bunting for Queens Jubilee 2022	Cllr Jones	Ongoing

- 578. Community Playing Field**
- a. Alternative suppliers have been contacted regarding wetpour quotations. BPC met with Playspaces, and their quote is awaited. Safeplay and Playfix will visit the area soon.
AP2: Clerk to chase quotations.
 - b. Landscape Services, trading as Commercial Services, forwarded two late invoices for 2021. Clerk confirmed with Cllrs that invoices were correct, and payment was arranged.
 - c. Savills contacted BPC as they failed to issue various invoices dating back to 2018. BPC are discussing the situation with Savills to reach an agreement.
AP3: Clerk and Cllr Jones to continue discussions with Savills.
- 579. Blacksmiths Barn**
- a. One quote received regarding boarding for part of loft area. Two other quotes are awaited. Clerk to seek landlord's approval.
AP4: Clerk to contact landlord for approval.
 - b. Cllrs agreed a budget of £500 to purchase outstanding items including cutlery and crockery. Quotes to be requested to buy and install a kitchen double wall unit. Funds to be provided from the ringfenced Blacksmith's Barn budget. Clerk to seek landlord's approval for the wall unit.
AP5: Cllr Jones to purchase cutlery and crockery and obtain three quotes for the kitchen cupboard.
AP6: Clerk to contact landlord to seek approval.
 - c. Update on fitting Smart Home remote switch to be provided once loft is boarded out.
- 580. Village Maintenance**
- a. Cllr Carr has been in contact with The Bell. The delivery firm's insurance company require a quote for repair. Cllr Jones to arrange.
AP7: Cllr Jones to obtain a quote.
 - b. Cllr Bowring has re-painted the black sections of BPCs fingerpost outside Pickwick Motors. The white sections do not require painting. The post to the village sign will be re-painted in warmer weather.
AP8: Cllr Bowring to paint post to the village sign.
 - c. The village spring clean will be held **30th April** meeting at 10am at the village centre. Event to be advertised on BPC's website and Facebook.
AP9: Cllr Jones to advertise event and Clerk will email residents.
 - d. Thanks to Cllrs Bowring for repairing and re-installing the footpath map notice board.
 - e. Cllr Carr has spoken with KCC regarding BPC attaching bigger reflectors to the bollards at all build-outs. She will check again that the ones selected are compliant and arrange purchase and installation. Cllrs agreed a budget of £200.
AP10: Cllr Carr to purchase and arrange installation.
- 581. Defibrillator**
- a. Despite continued attempts to provide a defibrillator at The Bell, the manager informed Cllr Carr there are still outstanding issues as to where it will be located. BPC will take no further action unless we hear back from The Bell.
 - b. Location signs for the existing village defibrillator have not yet been delivered.
AP11: Clerk to contact the supplier.
- 582. Planning**
- a. **Lidsing Garden Development / Maidstone Borough Council Local Plan.**
Cllr Jones confirmed a petition was presented to MBC at the Strategic, Planning and Infrastructure Committee (SPIC) by Sue Harwood of ALGD on 21st March. Thanks to the many protesters who also attended the meeting. The petition requested the removal of the proposed development at Lidsing from MBCs Local Plan. 3600 signatures were obtained. Disappointingly, it was only signed by 5 of 13 Boxley Parish Cllrs and 2 of our 3 Boxley Ward Cllrs.

On 29th March the petition was subsequently presented to Parliament by Tracey Crouch MP. This is the second time Lidsing has been raised in Parliament. Rehman Chishti MP presented a similar petition in December 2020.

At the SPIC on 21st March MBC Cllrs made only minor modifications to the plan and voted that it be submitted to the Government Inspectorate for an Examination in Public. This will possibly be in late summer/autumn.

Following a meeting, arranged by a Boxley Ward Cllr with Hume Planning (the company developing plans for Lidsing), an email and a four-page letter from Hume Planning was circulated to attendees (Ward Cllrs Bob Hinder, Anne Brindle, Heidi Bryant, and Chair of Boxley PC, Chris Shepherd). Hume Planning acknowledged attendees were 'representatives of the community' and the letter spoke of ways to work together, community engagement and confidently suggested actions which could take place before the Local Plan is 'independently confirmed as legally sound' at the Examination in Public.

Acting on professional advice, Cllr Jones and Sue Harwood had objected to the meeting taking place and declined to attend. Despite this, Hume Planning included them in all correspondence. BPC and ALGD have no intention of 'working with' Hume Planning prior to the decision at the EiP. Cllr Jones wrote to them stating that Bredhurst PC and ALGD remain totally opposed to the scheme.

Cllr Jones wrote to the Boxley Ward Cllr to ask if he was now working with Hume Planning. He took offence and stated he may take legal advice and refer Cllr Jones to the Standards Committee. He also stated he would distance himself from Cllr Jones and Bredhurst Parish Council and asked that Bredhurst Cllrs be informed of his decision, which Cllr Jones did.

The Chair of Boxley PC, who resigned from ALGD last month, wrote to Cllr Jones stating that employing barristers and professional consultants is 'far too premature and frankly a waste of time, effort and lots of money'. Cllr Jones informed BPC that Lenham Parish Council has professional experts and legal advisors already in place and our own independent and professional consultants are advising we do the same.

It was also reported that previous minutes of the SPIC (the committee responsible for the implementation of the Local Plan) showed that the Lenham Ward Cllrs who have fiercely fought the inclusion of Heathlands in the Local Plan have attended/spoken at the SPIC meetings approximately 19 times. Cllrs **agreed** that the Clerk writes to all Boxley Ward Members to ask if they intend speaking at the Examination in Public.

AP12: Clerk to write to all Boxley Ward Cllrs.

As the ALGD committee now has no representation from Boxley Parish Council, an ALGD committee member from Boxley Village or Ward would be welcomed as it is vital that Boxley is represented.

- b. Cllr Jones explained an ex-barrister of 26 years' experience approached Tracey Crouch MP offering help with the campaign. A meeting is arranged with Tracey Crouch, BPC and ALGD. Prior to the meeting, Cllr Jones and Sue Harwood met with the ex-barrister who has offered advice on legal issues free of charge. She is not able to act for BPC/ALGD at the EiP but recommended instructing a barrister and continuing to work closely with Medway Council. She confirmed she agreed with the actions already taken by BPC/ALGD.

Quotes received from three barrister's chambers were discussed at a meeting of ALGD on 5th April. It was agreed to recommend to BPC to accept the quote from Landmark Chambers for an initial six-hour period to scrutinise documents and hold a case conference and requested this be funded by Bredhurst PC. If agreed, ALGD, in conjunction with BPC, will start fund raising for future costs. BPC Cllrs **agreed**

to instruct Landmark Chambers and confirmed funding for Lidsing of £3042 was available for legal advice and miscellaneous costs. Cllrs agreed fund raising via GoFundMe will be started as soon as possible. Funds will be ring-fenced in the BPC account.

AP13: Clerk to instruct Landmark Chambers and inform others of non-selection.

AP14: BPC/ALGD to start GoFundMe campaign

DA

- c. **Planning Application 21/506626/Full** Conversion of an existing stable at Stud Farm to provide a new two-bedroom dwelling with associated parking, landscaping, private amenity space and external store - application Resubmission to 21/503146/FULL. **Approved by MBC.**

Appeal Ref: APP/A2280/W/21/3276864 Gibraltar Farm, Ham Lane, Hempstead. The Planning Inspector stated it was not demonstrated that the scheme would not adversely affect the local distribution of bat species and would, therefore, not comply with BNE37 and BNE39. **Appeal dismissed.**

Whilst this is good news and may impact the deliverability of the Lidsing development, it should be noted that the applicant has already submitted another application for Gibraltar Farm.

583. Finance

- a. Financial statement and bank reconciliation were received and accepted

Account	Balance as of 31/03/22
Unity Trust Account	£33,629.23

- b. The following payments made out of and at meeting were agreed.
Payments to be made by BACS unless specified otherwise.

Payments made out of meeting

Ref	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
DD	Bytes Software Services Ltd – March 2022	8.82	1.76	10.58	--
DD	Onecom – March 2022	19.14	3.83	22.97	--
DD	Business Stream-allotment water bill Q4	142.68		142.68	--
125	Clerk Backpay 2021-22	--		--	VJ & NC
126	HMRC – Backpay Tax	--		--	VJ & NC
127	Ecotricity Bill - March 2022	210.00	10.50	220.50	VJ & NC
128	Commercial Services - 2021 – Invoice LS202181	400.55	80.11	480.66	VJ & NC
129	Commercial Services – 2021 - Invoice LS201551	733.08	146.62	879.70	VJ & NC
130	Clerk – Holiday Payment	--		--	VJ & NC
131	Clerk – HMRC Payment	--		--	VJ & NC

* VAT to be reclaimed.

Payments for authorising at meeting

Ref	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
1	Clerk – Cartridgesave 3 Colour Epson T1306 Ink	21.76	4.35	26.11	CGS & NC
2	Mona Cleaning – Barn Invoice March 2022	60.00		60.00	CGS & NC
3	Rachel Ford - March Gardening 4 hrs	100.00		100.00	CGS & NC
4	Savills - Community Field Rental Q1 2022 694060	112.50		112.50	CGS & NC
5	Savills - Community Field Rental Q2 2022 716857	112.50		112.50	CGS & NC
6	WorkNest – HR Advice – Invoice 14283	42.50	8.50	51.00	CGS & NC
7	Master Alarms – Call Out – Invoice 55836	45.00	9.00	54.00	CGS & NC

* VAT to be reclaimed

Cllrs Carr and Goodwin-Sword agreed to authorise the above payments.

- c. Councillors **agreed** to change AV Software to Webroot at £49.99pa.
- d. Councillors noted end of year accounts and the AGAR submission deadline of 1st July 2022

584. Reports from Parish Councillors
None received.

585. Reports from Borough and County Councillors (if present)
Borough Cllr Clive English updated BPC on the proposed Boundary changes. Constitutional changes to MBC will be voted on at next week's Full Council meeting.

586. Correspondence

- a. A resident has raised the possibility of introducing street lighting to the village. Cllrs discussed the request, and a reply will be sent to the resident.
AP15: Clerk to write to the resident.
- b. A resident has requested more traffic calming in the village. Cllrs discussed the request, and a reply will be sent to the resident.
AP16: Clerk to write to the resident.

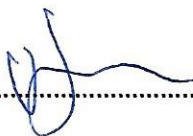
587. Forthcoming Meeting Dates

Cllrs **agreed** to move the September meeting from 7th September to 31st August.

588. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

589. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 4th May 2022 at 6.30pm

Signed.....

Date.....4/5/22